



Nominated by ? ACTIVE DISASSEMBLY
RESEARCH



This is a design of surprises - deceptively simple at first, with further investigation revealing a multi-unit construction that encourages a variety of play experiences. The creator, Lee Fletcher of Fig Industrial Design (www.figindustrialdesign.com) has investigated a more developmental approach that forces the user, almost passively, to learn. By mixing numerous experiential components in different planes, directions and tactile finishes, his design accommodates a wide range of learning abilities and ages. The approach to this project for the London Regional Children's Museum (www.londonchildrensmuseum.ca), in Ontario, Canada, was to seek new opportunities to include all children in an interactive, imaginative and expressive play experience. Described as a Journey of Discovery and Imagination, it contains elements of a journey, from doors to pass through, vehicles to travel on and a stage to retell the tales of journeys past. Various pieces surround a maze, bound by impressionistic 'doors' defining the space as a distinct environment. Different vantage points provide varied levels of understanding of the pieces, such as the train that only appears from certain positions and independent play structures that appear from others. This engages the viewer's curiosity and imagination as what they see changes as they move.

? PLAYGROUND DESIGN